

# **Exhibit 3**

## About ECFMG

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## History

Physicians who received their basic medical degree from a school outside the United States and Canada (international medical graduates or IMGs) make up roughly 20% of the physician workforce in the United States. Traditionally, IMGs have represented a significant percentage of the U.S. physician workforce.

Evaluating the readiness of IMGs to enter graduate medical education (GME) programs in the United States has long been a concern of medical organizations, hospitals, agencies, and the public. During the 1950s, the need for a formal program of evaluation intensified due to explosive growth in the demand for health care services, increasing opportunities for trained medical personnel, and a greater dependence on residents to provide medical care, which created a large number of available positions in GME.

In 1956, a private, nonprofit organization, the Evaluation Service for Foreign Medical Graduates (ESFMG), was established to:

- provide information to and answer inquiries of IMGs planning to come to the United States for GME;
- evaluate IMGs' credentials, knowledge of medicine, and command of English; and
- certify that IMGs have met certain medical education and examination requirements.

Later that year, ESFMG changed its name to the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). ECFMG developed procedures to validate medical education and assist the [National Board of Medical Examiners® \(NBME®\)](#), developed a medical science examination and English language proficiency test. This formal evaluation of examinations and validation of medical education credentials, became known as ECFMG Certification.

In 1958, ECFMG administered its first examinations and certified the first IMGs. Within three years, ECFMG Certification had become the new standard for evaluating IMGs in the health care system, required by the [American Medical Association](#) and the [American Hospital Association](#) of IMGs serving in patient care situations in hospitals in the United States.

The scope of ECFMG's responsibilities broadened in 1974 when it merged with the Commission on Foreign Medical Graduates (CFMG). CFMG's activities included evaluating IMGs and monitoring the visa sponsorship of medical Exchange Visitors in the United States. The combined organization was named the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, retaining the acronym ECFMG. Through this merger, ECFMG acquired responsibility for the [visa sponsorship of Exchange Visitor physicians](#) participating in the J-1 visa program and became increasingly involved with the international medical community, a trend that continues today.

ECFMG's experience in certifying IMGs has allowed it to develop programs that share its expertise with others involved in the assessment of physicians. Through [International Credentials \(EPIC<sup>SM</sup>\)](#), ECFMG makes its world-class experience with the primary-source verification of medical education credentials available to evaluate, train, educate, and employ physicians worldwide. EPIC also provides services for individual physicians. ECFMG also has developed resources to support IMGs pursuing medical education in the United States, including the [Exchange Visitor Sponsorship Program](#), [ERAS® Support Services](#), [Certification Verification Services](#), and the [Certificate Holders Office \(ECHO\)](#).

ECFMG has a long-standing commitment to promoting excellence in international medical education. Over the years, ECFMG has maintained a wealth of data through research on international medical education, IMGs, and their impact on world health. ECFMG also developed a number of resources for the international medical community, including exchange programs and consultation services for international medical schools and their faculties. In 2000, ECFMG expanded its commitment to the international medical community by establishing the [Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research \(FAIMER®\)](#). FAIMER, a nonprofit foundation of ECFMG, provides support exclusively to research and programs that enrich international medical education. In 2015, ECFMG launched GEMx, a program dedicated to promoting and facilitating educational exchange in medicine and the health professions. Through GEMx, ECFMG is building a global partnership, and supporting regional partnerships, of its commitment to making international exchange a part of their education programs and to providing students in medicine and the health professions increased access to opportunities.

In 2006, ECFMG celebrated 50 years of promoting excellence in international medical education. Established to evaluate the qualifications of IMGs entering GME, ECFMG has grown to meet the needs of physicians, health care consumers, medical educators, researchers in medical education and health workforce planning, hospitals, agencies, and those involved in the evaluation and certification of health care professionals, both in the United States and abroad. Today, ECFMG is moving forward with initiatives including support for efforts to accredit international medical schools and expansion of web-based services for physicians, medical schools, and others in the international medical community. Through such initiatives, ECFMG continues to translate its experience, expertise, and resources into quality programs and services, and to collaborate with other organizations in the field of international medical education and assessment.

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